

the thunder is over.) But that farmer boy lives near to nature; he learns to work; he is not crammed and filled with a lot of miserable truck that is called education, and he learns to think and to discriminate. He is strong; he gets exercise; he has a vigorous body. He takes all the atmosphere of the country church and the country school. We see sad things in some phases of civilization, for, my friends, the cities grind up men just as they grind up horses, and there is a Whitechapel in every city, a place where men are taken in and ground out as so much refuse and tailings. That is true. It has always been true. This generation is no worse than the past. It is better than the past. We shall have better times yet, for the ideal man, the man of the twentieth century, is only in the beginning of his development. He will stand four-square to every wind that blows. He will believe in God Almighty.

#### THE NEED OF SPIRITUAL HELP

The men that rule this country, and this State, and this nation, that are to be the masters of the world, will be guided by a power from within, even when they do not recognize it. It is the religious people, the men who believe in God Almighty and themselves—the Scotchman sometimes don't know which is the biggest man, but he only believes in those two—but I say, the men that believe in God Almighty and themselves have always been the men that have given humanity its rise, and they always will, and a large majority in all ages have come from the farm. Read your Bibles. Read about that old granger, Abraham, living just like men out here in Colorado. There is not a nation that has added anything to our civilization that does not boast that it came from Abraham, the friend of God. He is the man that taught us how to settle strifes. Look at Moses. You say he was born in town. So he was. You say he was raised at court. So he was. But he didn't know anything until God took him by the ear and sent him out to learn of Jethro, the man who afterwards taught him and laid the foundation of the Presbyterian church and republican government, the only man who ever lived that could settle the two great problems that are vexing us today. How did he do it? He said: "You can't have any mortgages on land that last over fifty years. You can't dispose of your land for more than fifty years. You can't rob your grand-children;" and as long as that law was observed, which it was from the time of David, he had a prosperous nation. He said, "You can't get interest on your money." He knew that the man that couldn't get interest on money wasn't going to loan it, and he knew that by borrowed money all the mean things of this world are done.

That town boy learned all his sense in the country from that old granger, Joshua. The farmers always have run things; always have; always will. Look at old Jacob, the stockman. Pretty tough fellow. But look

here, Shorthorn breeders: what would you give to know how he put spots on cattle? Who is that man that voiced the religion of all ages but David, the shepherd lad? And when the tidings of great joy came to the people, who were the men thought worthy to hear it? Not in the temple; not the wise men in Jerusalem; but simply shepherd lads, farmers like you, who watched their sheep on the fields of Bethlehem by night. Don't worry; don't feel that this world is going to the devil. God reigns, God rules, and the principles of the religion of Christ are to make this twentieth century the most glorious period the sun ever shone on. There may be sad things, oppression that maketh a wise man mad; there may be corruption; but my friends, God Almighty is on the throne and woman's hand is upon the cradle. So long as woman's hand is upon the cradle and the farmer's lives, this world will go on growing better and better until that millennial, which will come just as soon as men understand that the solution of all problems—political, civil, social, and religious—is in applying to the every-day business of life the precepts of that working-man, the Carpenter, the son who was brought up in the village of Nazareth.

## Our Young People

#### The Word of God

O Word of God incarnate,  
O Wisdom from on high,  
O Truth unchanged, unchanging,  
O Light of our dark sky!  
We praise thee for the radiance  
That from the hallowed page  
A lantern to our footsteps,  
Shines on from age to age.

The church from her dear Master  
Received the gift divine,  
And still that life she lifteth,  
O'er all the earth to shine.  
It is the golden casket  
Where gems of truth are stored;  
It is the heaven-drawn picture  
Of Christ, the living Word.

It floateth like a banner  
Before God's host unfurled;  
It shineth like a beacon,  
Above the darkling world;  
It is the chart and compass,  
That o'er life's surging sea,  
'Mid mists and rocks, and quicksands,  
Still guides, O Christ, to thee.

O make thy church, dear Savior,  
A lamp of burnished gold,  
To bear before the nations  
Thy true light as of old;  
O teach thy wandering pilgrims  
By this their path to trace,  
Till clouds and darkness ended,  
They see thee face to face.

W. W. How, in *Epworth Herald*.

#### OUR STEWARDSHIP—Luke 12:42-48

Topic for Oct. 21

The figure of the steward is a very apt one to express the true relation of men toward God. The Mosaic dispensation had its system of tithes and offerings, which symbolized to the Jews God's ownership of all, but which came to be paid by some as a sort of bribe by which to obtain victory and prosperity.

Jesus teaches that not a tenth but all belongs to God and is to be used as will please him. The characteristic difference between members of the merely human kingdom and those who thru regeneration are members of the kingdom of God, is that the former do not recognize the principle of stewardship but act as if their property, time, talent,—all is their own to be used for their own pleasure, while the Christian chooses to do God's will rather than his own and consequently in matters of money, time, talent and all he says with Christ, "I do always those things that please him." John 8:29. Oh, if only all Christians would say this and carry it out how soon the world would be evangelized! But so many have not been taught and do not realize that they are only stewards and consequently rob the Lord of his own continually. Let the young people who study this lesson, study it thoroughly. Let the one who leads the meeting make the lesson understood. Let the pastor add his help until all shall see clearly that we are stewards and must be judged as such.

#### SCRIPTURE HELP

- 1 How men are like stewards.
  - 1 All we have we get from God, Acts 17:25; Jas. 1:17; I Cor. 4:7.
  - 2 With all we have we shall soon return to God, Eccl. 12:7; Gen. 3:19.
  - 3 Before God we shall give an account of our use of all that we have, Heb. 9:27; Rom. 14:12; Rom. 2:6; Rev. 22:12; Matt. 12:36.
  - 4 God expects us to use all that we have for him. Matt. 6:33; I Cor. 6:20; Luke 19:13.
- 2 All are stewards whether Christians or not, Matt. 25:14; Luke 19:14, 27.
- 3 Kinds of Stewards.

(Let some one comment on each of these topics)

- 1 The *evil* steward rejects his master, embezzles his property and comes to a bad end, Luke 20:9-16. Who are the evil stewards of to-day?
- 2 The *careless* steward delays his service, lives in selfishness and is surprised and punished, Luke 12:41-48. How are men careless as stewards now?
- 3 The *idle* steward buries his talent, excuses his laziness but is unexcused in judgment, Matt. 25:24-30. How are talents buried to-day and what excuses are given?
- 4 The *faithful* steward uses all for the Master, returns all with interest and is amply rewarded, Luke 19:12-19. Who is that faithful and wise steward? Luke 12:42

#### TOPICS FOR TALKS

- 1 Degrees of reward for faithfulness, Luke 19:17-20; Rev. 22:12.
- 2 How talents may be used instead of buried

#### QUESTIONS FOR THOUGHT AND DISCUSSION

- 1 What is a steward?
- 2 What are the duties of a steward?
- 3 What is the punishment of the unfaithful steward?
- 4 Name all the kinds of talents you can.
- 5 Is it the duty of some to sing or teach a class or give generously as much as it is the duty of others to preach?
- 7 What does it mean "To him that hath shall be given?" Luke 19:26.
- 8 How can we all be more faithful as stewards?
- 10 When will our stewardship end?

C. F. YODER.

#### To the Prayer-meeting Committee

Last week I addressed myself primarily to the Presidents of the various societies, altho my words were also applicable to every member. The success of the society does not depend alone upon the President but upon the mutual cooperation of all. Of course much depends upon the President. He is chosen leader. He must lead the forces into the battle and arrange the plan of fight. But he is not expected to do this alone. He